

REMARKS

Claims 51-65 are pending and have been examined on the merits. Claims 51 and 61-65 are amended hereinabove. Support for the amended claims can be found in the specification on page 27, lines 1-7, page 12, line 13, page 13, lines 16-25 and figures 9A-C). No new matter has been added.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner has maintained the rejection of claims 51-65 under 35 U.S.C. 112, ¶ 1 for allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Specifically, the Examiner has taken the position that the claims have failed to indicate which specific antigen the claimed antibody would interact with and that without adequate description of the specificity, one of ordinary skill in the art cannot envision what is the claimed antibody or fragment thereof. Moreover, the Examiner has also taken the position that the claims lack adequate description of a “pharmaceutical composition” comprising fragments SEQ ID NO: 43, 44 or 46 because the specification has not shown that the claimed antibody or fragment can be used for treating any specific diseases or viral infection providing clinical benefits.

Without admitting or acquiescing the merits of the rejection and solely to expedite prosecution, Applicant hereby has amended claims 51 and 61-65. Thus, the claims now define the antigen specificity of the antibodies with SEQ ID NO: 43, 44 and 46. Moreover, the claims now define that the claimed antibody or fragment can be used for the prophylaxis or treatment of HIV. Support for the amended claims can be found in the specification (*e.g.*, page 27, lines 1-7, page 12, line 13, page 13, lines 16-25 and figures 9A-C).

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

This response is filed concurrently with a petition for a one month extension of time. Thus, no extra fee is believed do. If, on the other hand, it is determined that further fees are necessary or any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit or credit such sum to Deposit Account No. 02-2275.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited

Respectfully submitted

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